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ON THE COVER
Pizza Lucé is among the many Twin Cities restaurants participating in this year's Dining Out For Life event on April 25. Photo by Mike Hnida

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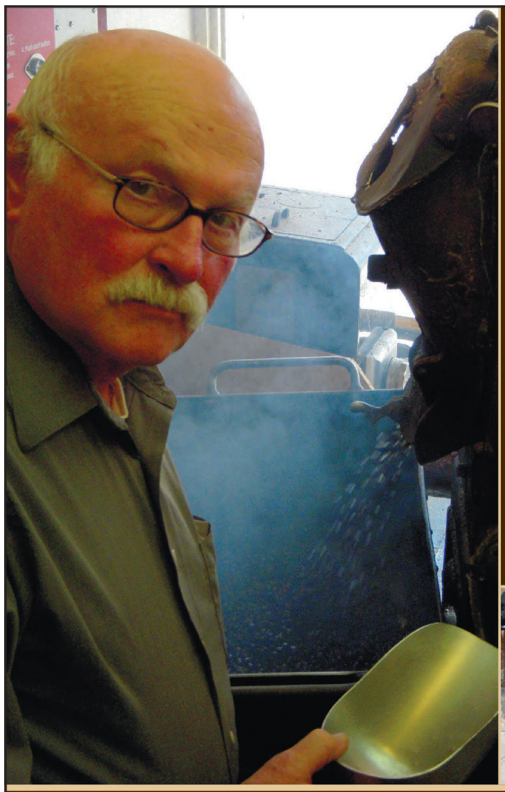

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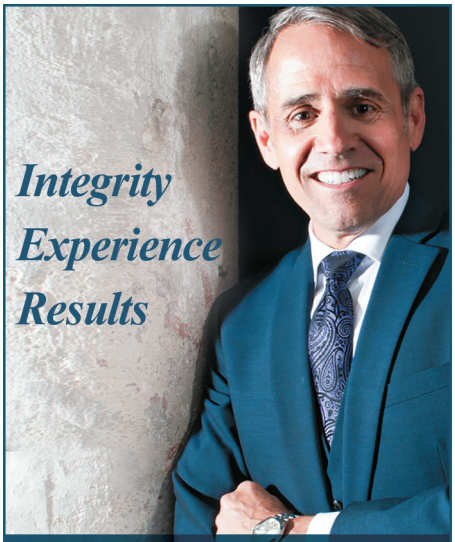

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FROM THE EDITOR | BY CHRIS TARBOX

Life Is A Dish Best Served With Love

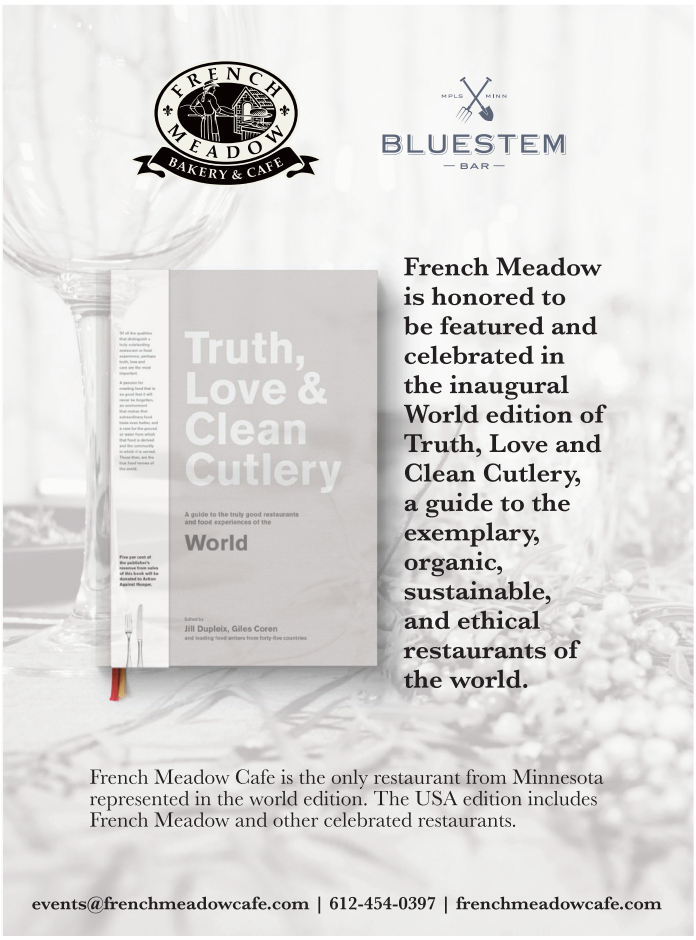
Now that spring is here, we Minnesotans are feeling a lot less reserved about going out, especially now that the baseball season has started, the summer movie season is around the corner (I got my *Avengers: Endgame* tickets, did you?!), and of course, our favorite bars and restaurants are dusting off their patios for drinks and eats in the outdoors.

The latter of those three is especially important, as this April 25 is the big day for the annual Dining Out For Life initiative, with dozens of local eateries donating a portion of that day's proceeds to The Aliveness Project in order to help people living with HIV. As a proud supporter of this amazing cause, *Lavender Magazine* is happy to spread the word with the 2019 Dine & Drink issue!

In this issue, we highlight a handful of the local Twin Cities restaurants participating in this year's event, including our cover stars from Pizza Lucé, so be sure to not only check them out on April 25, but all of the other great dining establishments contributing to put an end to HIV.

On top of that, our old pal Bradley Traynor eats the menu at St. Paul's fantastic Iron Ranger restaurant (which boasts, in this writer's opinion, the best poutine in the state); and yours truly returns with another list of Seven Breweries to visit in Seven Days. I know, I know, it's a herculean task, and it took a lot of hard work and a lot of leg-pulling, but I did it for you. I'm generous like that.

All jokes aside, it's a mighty task to eradicate HIV, but with your help and your patronage of participating restaurants on April 25, we can help The Aliveness Project move the needle even closer to serving our community members living with this disease. So be sure to dine out for the food, dine out for love, and Dine Out For Life! ▮



All the World's a Stage—Are You a Player?

The Guthrie has been working creatively with gender-bending in casting, no more so than the recent production of Shakespeare's *As You Like It* having four traditionally male roles—Touchstone, Jaques, Cofin and Hymen—become female roles played by females, with a grand same-sex, mixed race, mixed-age couples in the four-marriage finale.

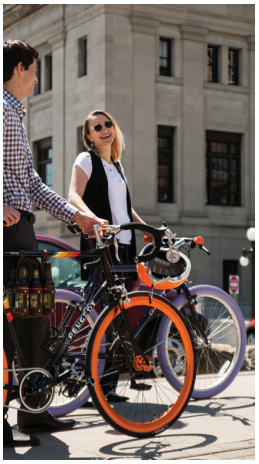
In the Bard's day, all the roles were played by men or youths, so while accurate Shakespearean productions are rare today, it happened in 2013 when the British all-male Propeller company played repertory performances at the Guthrie of *Taming of the Shrew and Twelfth Night.*

Women performing as men is not new. The legendary Sarah Bernhardt played Hamlet in 1899, following her first "trouser role" in Athalie in 1867, and later alternated the roles of Portia and Shylock in a 1916 *Merchant of Venice*.

The world is changing: actors—people—are freer to choose their roles and the stages upon which they play them. The Guthrie will continue to experiment and explore further nuances of gendering. In their 2017 Hamlet, Kelsie Didion's Mercutio underwent pronoun conversion and a sea change to young woman-about-town, while Charity Jones's Scrooge of that year's *A Christmas Carol* yielded no quarter to Daniel Fuller's version of male miserliness. Shakespeare's original boy-Rosalind portrayed a girl disguised as a boy to mentor Orlando. In 2019, Meghan Kriedler is a woman in disguise as a man ready to teach Jesse Bhamrah's Orlando how to woo Rosalind effectively. How should one approach gender change? Assume your role and have try.

As You Like It opened on February 9; while its multi-gendered members cast about for love in the time-suspended Forest of Arden, in London, on the 27th, and in the U.S. on March 8, Brie Larson burst forth from the brow of Marvel Studios as *Captain Marvel*, the first of the MCU's (Marvel Cinematic Universe) 21 films to be captained by a female protagonist. It won't be the last, they vow. Responses have ranged from the empyrean to "belittling towards men."

It's in the air. Everywhere. Where next will the Guthrie push boundaries? I haven't the answer, but it will be exciting to watch, right here in the Twin Cities. Check their next mainstage show, classic *Cyrano de Bergerac*, running through May 5. ∎



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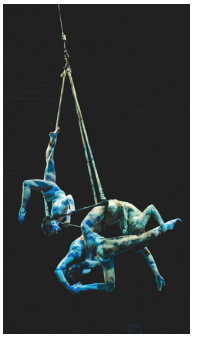

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A DAY in the Life

VOUA HER

By Chris Tarbox

Photo by Chris Tarbox

Name: Voua Her

Where did you grow up? I grew up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, but lived in other parts of Wisconsin, like Caledonia, and Madison, until I was eighteen.

Where do you live? I currently live in East Saint Paul.

Who do you live with? In the Hmong community, it is customary for the youngest son in the family to have their parents live with them. So my mom lives with me.

What is your occupation? I am a small business owner. I make contracts with the local agricultural businesses and recruit people for temp jobs. So it's more of a seasonal job. When I'm not managing my business, I work as a massage therapist. I tend to like to work with the weird or cool injuries and see how much I can affect the healing process, because it seems like more of a challenge.

When did you come out? I came out when I was 20 years old. Although I didn't get to come out gracefully with a sit-down talk with my parents. I was more forced out of the closet by my oldest brother after a fight. The situation was that I skipped out on going with my cousins to the club to hit on girls. My oldest brother got angry with me, and followed me into the basement where I went to do laundry to avoid an argument with him. Since my brother was never really good at talking… it went into a fist fight, or more like he just beat me up and kept asking why I kept avoiding situations that could lead to a potential girlfriend. After taking enough of a beating, I finally told him I was gay behind my tears. Which was followed by him running to tell my parents. Of course they came down and my mom sobbed, and kept asking if I was really sure I was gay, my dad made some snide remarks and spat in my face and tried to kick me out of the family. Of course my mom didn't allow it, and did defend me, but the situation did not go well. It took a long time, but my mom finally came around, and is an ally to the gay community. She loves me and all my friends.

When do you wake up? I wake up whenever I hear my alarm. I've trained myself to react to my alarm, so I can be fully awake when I hear it. When I work, I tend to wake up anywhere from 4:30 a.m.-5:30 a.m. If I don't have to do anything in the morning, then I take my time getting out of bed.

Phone alarm or old school alarm? I use my iPad as my alarm.

What's the first thing you do in the morning? The first thing I do in the morning is get out of bed and go use the bathroom.

Breakfast? If I have enough time to digest before working or interacting with people, then I usually just have a bowl of cereal.

Coffee? I don't drink coffee. Coffee tends to have an opposite effect on me. It puts me to sleep. The way I say it to my friends is, I'm already happy in the morning anyways. My friend Nikki gets frustrated with me when we schedule working out together in the morning. She gives me the death glare and asks, "Why are you so chipper when we're working out this early?"

How do you spend your commute: While commuting to work, I usually spend time talking with employees, am listening to music, or am driving dangerously as I enthusiastically belt out notes while singing along to my music.

If your job were like a yearbook, what would you be voted? (Class clown, best dressed, most annoying, etc.) I'd be voted weird kid or most nicest (yes, I'm writing "most nicest" on purpose). I always tell people when I meet them that I'm weird, so they know not to be surprised when I do or say something that may throw them off guard. I'm pretty open with my communication, so I'm less likely to do something passive-aggressive. I pretty much like or love every person I meet because I enjoy having friends with all different backgrounds, personalities, and experiences. It would take a really rude or mean person for me not to like someone.

What inspires you? My friends and family are my inspirations. They push me to challenge myself or provide me goals, examples, or skills that I wish to learn or accomplish for myself. Great friends make a really big difference in my day-to-day life. My brain often reminds me of the fun memories I make with them and I laugh to myself throughout my day. Like a weird person!

Do you eat your lunch while working or take a break? Depending if I'm pressed for time or not, I do eat while working, but prefer to take a break from everything while eating so I can enjoy the meal.

Is your work space tidy or a hot mess? I describe my work space as chaotic organized. It looks messy, but I know where everything is. Unless someone touches my things and misplaces things. I do clean up my work space from time to time just to keep up the cosmetic look of my work space.

What's been your favorite job? My favorite job would have to be doing massage. I enjoy it because massage is like an art form for me. Artists have a state of mind or concentration called the flow, where their creativity just flows out of them. I enter that state when doing massage and it's therapeutic for both me and the client. It's also rewarding because I get to see how my work affects the range of motion, the mood, and the pain level of my client.

Who are your heroes? My heroes are definitely my friends. I'm grateful for all my friends each and every day because they provide fun memories and experiences with their unique personalities that I get to reflect on and smile about each day.

Favorite weeknight meal: Go out, take out, or cook in? Unfortunately I'm lacking in cooking skills, so I tend to go out for food more than I cook. I can cook simple things, but if asked to grab random items from the fridge to make a random dish from scratch with no previous instructions or experience… it's not going to be pretty.

Most embarrassing moment: One of my most embarrassing moments would be when I rejoined the Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus. At the end of the night for the open rehearsal, when returning members or new potential members participate in rehearsal, I approached someone who I thought was my friend from behind. Picture this, a short 5'3" Asian skipping along approaching this 6'5" friend from behind, who was talking to a group of about five people. Instead of hugging or tapping him on the shoulder, because I'm weird like that, I did a playful jumping headbutt to his right shoulder blade. It apparently hit harder than I expected because he stumbled a bit. This followed by a "What the hell?" The guy turns around, and I look up and, and… "OH MY GOD!!! You're not Erik!" The group of people this stranger was talking to, all whip their heads around and gave me judgmental stares. I bowed a few times, apologized about a hundred times within a split second, and ran out of the room.

Of course I posted on Facebook laughing at myself and revealing my embarrassment while tagging the correct person who the headbutt was meant for, followed with the words, "Why do you have a doppelganger in the chorus?" He laughed about my story and begins tagging all the tall people with his build in the chorus. Other members read my post and started tagging people as well. Finally they found the correct person who I playfully headbutted. And he replied, "Yes I was spear tackled by a little Asian after rehearsal tonight. He (referring to me) apologized, tucked his tail, and ran out so fast, I didn't get the chance to tell him it was okay." So I greeted him on my Facebook post. He said, "Hell of a first impression." That was quite embarrassing, but also hilarious for myself.

On a usual weeknight, you are doing what? On a usual weeknight I'm either reading random articles, watching TV shows that friends recommend, or playing video games. My latest go to game has been Beat Saber.

Bedtime: I have a hard time falling asleep early. So I usually go to sleep around 2 a.m. or later. I can operate on low amounts of sleep; however, it does eventually catch up, and then I need to crash for a long sleep.

Favorite weekend activity: My favorite weekend activities are meeting with friends to share in different areas of interest, dinning out with friends, and playing team sports. Even on the Myer Briggs or personality test, my personality is considered introvert, but the weird introvert who has tendency to be more social. I totally enjoy time by myself, but am not opposed to being around people I know and like.

What are you most proud of and why? I'm most proud of my empathy and my memory. It may sound weird to say that, but I do like the fact that I can, or have a better affinity towards reading people's energy and moods and knowing when something is off. I guess I like this portion because it helps me to realize when something is going wrong, and I can use my memory to recall my actions and view the experience from the other person's point of view. However, I've learned that no matter how neutral, kind, or genuinely happy you are with your words, if someone is in a bad mood, they will read or take any message you write or say to them, and treat it as if you were attacking them. Then you just have to realize it might not be you that is causing the negative reaction.

Words of wisdom to share: Be considerate of other people. Remember it's not always about you. If all you ever do is push your ideas, your wants, and your needs onto other people and never care to truly listen to or just disregard the ideas and concerns of other people, then don't be surprised when all those people disregard your ideas and your concerns. Be kind to others, because you don't know what people might be going through, and you'll never know if your words or actions towards someone may take or save a life. Also, don't apologize if you don't mean it, and don't apologize just because you think it's something they wanted to hear. An insincere apology will only make people more angry. Take it from a person who can tell when an apology is insincere. ∎

A BRIGHT ROOM CALLED DAY

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Gay playwright Tony Kushner is renowned for polemical scripts that imaginatively entertain. One of his early works, now presented by Red Bird Theatre, signals the beginnings of the approach of the formula that he dazzles with so well. Director Genevieve Bennett, who has staged strong productions of Ibsen's Hedda Gabler and Shepard's Buried Child, says "I was drawn to A Bright Room Called Day because the world of the play feels so familiar. Set in Germany in 1932, the play follows Agnes and her friends as democracy erodes and fascism rises. Today, given the daily injustices and threats that endanger our democracy, A Bright Room Called Day functions as a cautionary tale about the temptation of inaction in the face of fear, hatred, nationalism and lies. Though outraged and shocked, Agnes and her friends fail to conquer the inertia of the helplessness and fatigue; they remain stalled in the face of the evil that is sweeping their country. I identify with this struggle. When it feels like the earth beneath my feet is shifting, it seems hard enough just to keep my balance. A Bright Room Called Day asks us difficult questions. In a world that demands action, what do we do, and are we willing to do what is required?"

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Trylon Cinema continues what are called "roadshows" of Alfred Hitchcock films which play at two other local cinemas. They screen this spring in Minneapolis at the Heights and Riverview Theatres. It's hard to believe that in his heyday, Alfred Hitchcock was not taken as seriously artistically as he is now. Not until after his death did he finally win the over film historians and critics as someone on a par with David Lean, Ingmar Bergman, and Federico Fellini. This may be because suspense thrillers were sometimes perceived as lacking the gravitas of other genres in the eyes of the conventional wisdom of the day. However, Hitchcock had a penetrating understanding of how the subconscious runs us. In our Post-Sexual Revolution era, his insights into how unconscious sexual desires motivate human behavior is hauntingly prescient, and frankly, in the current political climate it can be dangerous to even discuss some of the realizations he came to. Anyone wanting to learn something about that can do so in a way that enthralls by attending this festival.

This year's festival is comprised of some of his lesser known and older works. But to be sure, every single selection is stellar and a dimension unto itself. The art direction, the starring and character role performances, and the use of camera and editing is captivating with every film below. You'll also get a sense of how his films changed after moving to the U.S. from Great Britain. Both countries claim him as theirs.

Vertigo (Thu., Apr. 11, Heights)

Though meeting with mixed reviews in 1958, it came to be ranked as the ninth greatest American movie ever by the American Film Institute in 2007. In the most vulnerable performance of his fabled career, Jimmy Stewart reveals the dangerously hypnotic power desire and yearning

can grip us with. San Francisco has never been so beautifully depicted. Kim Novak and Barbara Bel Geddes are luminously archetypal as contrasting manifestations of feminine essence.

Dial M For Murder (Mon., Apr. 15, Riverview)

An enormously entertaining film about a narcissistic tennis pro has-been who thinks he can commit the perfect crime. In devising a situation to kill his wife to gain her inheritance, he employs some wickedly underhanded notions. Gorgeously explosive color tones. Terrific star turns by Ray Milland, Grace Kelly and Robert Cummings. And John Williams' Inspector Hubbard is the very embodiment of law enforcement at its principled, truth-seeking best.

Spellbound (Thu., Apr. 18, Heights)

In the final year of World War II, 1945, the director mused on what could go wrong within the staff of a mental institution. A metaphor for the state of affairs finally ending in Germany and continuing in the USSR? Handsome Gregory Peck, who would go on to star in The Big Country, The Guns of Navarone, and To Kill a Mockingbird, brilliantly conveys underlying menace opposite the great Ingrid Bergman three years after Casablanca.

Marnie (Mon., Apr. 22, Riverview)

In 1964, Hitchcock examined a toxic mother-daughter relationship, echoing the toxic mother-son relationship he directed four years earlier in Psycho. Subconscious sexual shame and the interplay of both misogyny and misandry permeate. The film stars Tippi Hedren, also the star of Hitchcock's The Birds, Sean Connery in the same period as his early James Bond films, and Louise Latham in her best known role, who all expose how the childhood trauma of one person affects everyone around that person.

Rebecca (Mon., Apr. 29, Riverview)

In the haunting 1940 Oscar-winner for Best Picture, Hitchcock exudes a grasp of sublimated desire in his first American project. It was produced by David O. Selznick the year after his Gone With the Wind broke records that have yet to be surpassed. The character of Mrs. Danvers, played in a beguiling Oscar-nominated performance by Judith Anderson, is widely felt to evoke a lesbian aura. One of Laurence Olivier's most memorable performances, that of an upper class widower, is splendidly matched with a lovely Joan Fontaine, the naive young woman he marries. But she doesn't yet realize she resembles the first wife with whom the triggered Danvers is still obsessed.

The 39 Steps (Mon., May 6, Riverview)

This 1935 gem is beloved for its atmosphere and the nostalgic feelings it evokes. There's also innate appeal because its about on ordinary man caught up by chance in a treacherous spy operation. A wonderful Robert Donat makes the viewer wonder just how she or he might respond if placed in the same predicament.

The Lady Vanishes (Mon., May 13, Riverview)

This 1938 feature was the box office success Hitch definitely needed at the time and it reinforced Hollywood's Selznick that "the master of suspense" had a shiny future stateside. It has been named 35th best film film of the 20th century by the British Film Institute. An avalanche, a train winding through an isolated section of continental Europe, and a missing older woman make for eerie mystery. Featuring Margaret Lockwood, Michael Redgrave, and Dame May Whitty.

Continued on page 16

NEW DAWN THEATRE CO presents

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By Regina Taylor
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Little Women. Photo by Bob Suh

LITTLE WOMEN

Through Apr. 14
Theatre in the Round Players, 245 Cedar Ave. Minneapolis
612-333-3010
www.theatreintheround.org

Theatre in the Round Players, arguably the best producer of any theater in the region of classic plays, is offering Peter Clapham's stage adaptation of one of the most beloved American novels of the 19th century, Louisa May Alcott's Little Women. Set during the Civil War, it follows the experiences of four sisters on the path to maturity, and their mother. Director Seth Kaltwasser, new to TRP, is known for his work as Co-Artistic Director at the St. Croix Festival Theatre where he staged an acclaimed all-female production of 1776.

He shares, "I'm new to the Little Women story. I hadn't read the book or seen any of the film adaptations until I signed on to direct this show. One of the fun parts about getting to know the story and its legacy over the last year has been discovering just how enthusiastic its fan base remains, even 150 years after the book made its first impressions. The opportunity to work on literature that has such a rich heritage is very meaningful to me. I also like the way the playwright has kept all of the action within the March home. We hear about events that happen around town, but the action of the play is fully grounded within this magical time and place. It allows me and my team and our audience the opportunity to feel "at home" here, as well. "

Continued on page 18

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Marjorie Prime. Photo by Joseph Giannetti

MARJORIE PRIME

Apr. 19 – May 19
Park Square Theatre, 20 W. 7th Place, St. Paul
651-291-7005
www.parksquaretheatre.org

Gay Pulitzer Prize-finalist, Jordan Harrison, traverses into the realm of technology gone too far in Marjorie Prime for Prime Productions, the Theatre in Residence at Park Square. What happens when high tech is used to actually alter our own organic human faculties to remember and recall? Director Elena Giannetti points out that though some will call this science fiction, "the driving themes and urgency very much keep it in the here and now, similar to popular TV shows Westworld and Black Mirror. By using Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a clever device, Jordan challenges our beliefs and morals around memory and how we evaluate, manipulate and value them. As the main character, 85-year-old Marjorie (Candace Barrett Birk), continues her mental decline through her struggle with Alzheimer's disease, we must confront our own long held beliefs around what makes a memory and if memories make the person. What would we remember, and what would we forget, if given the chance?"

She continues, "Marjorie's reality becomes defined by what memories are fed back to her own sense of the truth. The technology Jordan has imagined serves as a social tool to combat loneliness. However, the characters are left with more questions than answers about their own value in life and what makes a life worth living. If given the option to choose between experiencing a 'curated' life through technology or a 'fragmented' reality, do humans have the solid foundation on which to choose one over the other?"

Metamorphoses. Image courtesy of the Guthrie Theater

METAMORPHOSES

Apr. 13 – May 19
Guthrie Theater, 818 S. Second St., Minneapolis
612-377-2224
www.guthrietheater.org

Roman poet Ovid offended Roman Empire leadership in the First Century BC and was ultimately exiled. There is some question as to whether he was bisexual or heterosexual, but there is no doubt that he had a unique apprehension of the power of Eros. His huge collection of fables, The Metamorphoses, is one of the most influential and absorbing works in the history of literature. It was central to the development of the creative mind of William Shakespeare, among others.

You probably know some of the stories found in Mary Zimmerman's marvelous stage adaptation of Ovid's opus. For example, selfish King Midas, whose touch turns things to gold. Orpheus, who travels to the underworld to retrieve his bride, Eurydice, who died of a snake bite. Narcissus, who in looking at his reflection in a pool becomes frozen. Clearly, Ovid was deeply concerned about the toll of human ego out of balance and the anguish of losing someone you dearly love.

Zimmerman's adaptation opened Off-Broadway in 2001 and transferred to Broadway in 2002. She won the Tony for Best Director and it was Tony-nominated for Best Play. She is now directing the joint production of what has paradoxically become a contemporary classic drawn from an ancient text. The presenters are the Guthrie Theater and Berkeley Repertory Theatre. ∎

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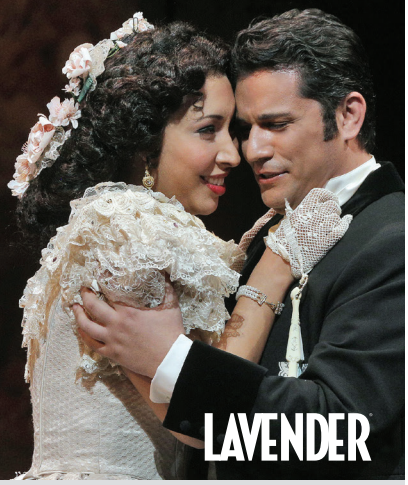

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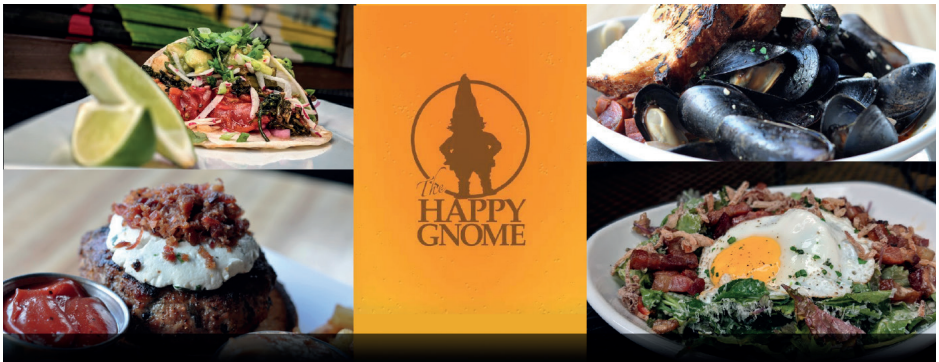

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Dining Out For Life: 2019

Pizza Lucé is one of the many restaurants contributing to this year's Dining Out For Life event in the Twin Cities.

Pizza Lucé employees, clockwise from left: Stephani Ramos, Max Manzo, Liz Mattson, Tony Logan, Michelle Vrba, and Anthony Hull. Photo by Mike Hnida

BY BRADLEY TRAYNOR

What better way to top off a delicious night on the town than to contribute to a beautiful cause? An annual fundraising event, Dining Out For Life raises money to support HIV/AIDS service groups and organizations. This year, the event will take place on Thursday, April 25, with all participating restaurants donating 20 to 100 percent of that day's profits to The Aliveness Project. Want to help out? Just visit one of these amazing establishments on April 25 and make a difference! For a full list of participating restaurants, go to www.diningoutforlife.com/city/minneapolis-st-paul-greater-mn.

Barbette- 25%

A celebration of all things French right in the heart of Uptown, Barbette has been a staple of brunch and happy hour taste treats for years. Simple, classic continental cuisine served up in a relaxed, unfussy atmosphere makes for a perfect stop along your daylong Dining Out for Life food journey.
1600 W. Lake St.
Minneapolis
www.barbette.com

Popul Vuh- 25%

Elevated Mexican cuisine right in the heart of Northeast Minneapolis, Popol Vuh offers up fresh, traditional ingredients in artful combinations designed to tell unique stories through flavor. If you're not quite sure where to begin, try the four-course tasting menu.
1414 Quincy St. NE
Minneapolis
popolvuhmpls.com

Fig + Farro- 20%

It's not every day you can get me into a restaurant that doesn't serve meat. Even fewer are the days you'd get me into such an establishment and like, nay, love it. Like many first-time vegan diners, I went into Fig + Farro wondering if I would leave full. I needn't have worried. Favorites include the jackfruit barbacoa and yellow pea falafel.
3001 Hennepin Ave. S.
Minneapolis
www.figandfarro.com

Joan's in the Park- 35%

This intimate, white table-clothed hidden gem in the Highland Park neighborhood of St. Paul is a perfect spot for anyone wanting classic fine dining without all the fuss. At Joan's in the Park, you feel like you're at the home of a dear friend who's invited you over for dinner. That is, if your dear friend happened to be a highly acclaimed chef with ample national recognition. If you want to earn bonus points from your dinner mates, order the crab toasts and steak tartare.
631 Snelling Ave. S.
St. Paul
www.joansinthepark.com

Pizza Luce- 35%

If pizza were music, Pizza Luce would be punk rock… in your mouth. Innovative, expressive and totally tasty, Pizza Luce's menu puts most to shame with its mouth-watering menu of original eats. And don't forget an order of wings or, if you're in a sammy mood, the Muffuletta tops my list of all-time favorites.
Various Metro Locations
pizzaluce.com

Hola Arepa- 25%

If you've never had an arepa, you're in luck. There's no better place to explore the culinary magic of these flavor-packed Venezuelan parcels of plenty in the Twin Cities than Hola Arepa. The handmade dough and fillings are prepared fresh daily and will literally take you on a tasty tour of Latin America in just a few bites. Add an order of yuca fries and arepitas (fried arepa balls filled with jalapenos and goat cheese) and I guarantee you'll become a regular.
3501 Nicollet Ave.
Minneapolis
www.holaarepa.com

eagleBOLTbar- 100%

The Eagle needs no explanation, but a reminder that, in addition to a stiff drink or four, you can also grab a super juicy burger basket with fries at this downtown watering hole. Perfect for your Dining Out for Life lunchtime nosh with coworkers or late night nibble with friends.
515 S. Washington Ave.
Minneapolis
www.eagleboltbar.com

Sawatdee- 35%

The secret to extraordinary Thai food is finding just the right balance of sweet, sour, bitter and salty. Or just ordering off the Sawatdee menu at one of their eight Twin Cities locations.
Various Metro Locations
www.sawatdee.com

LUSH- 100%

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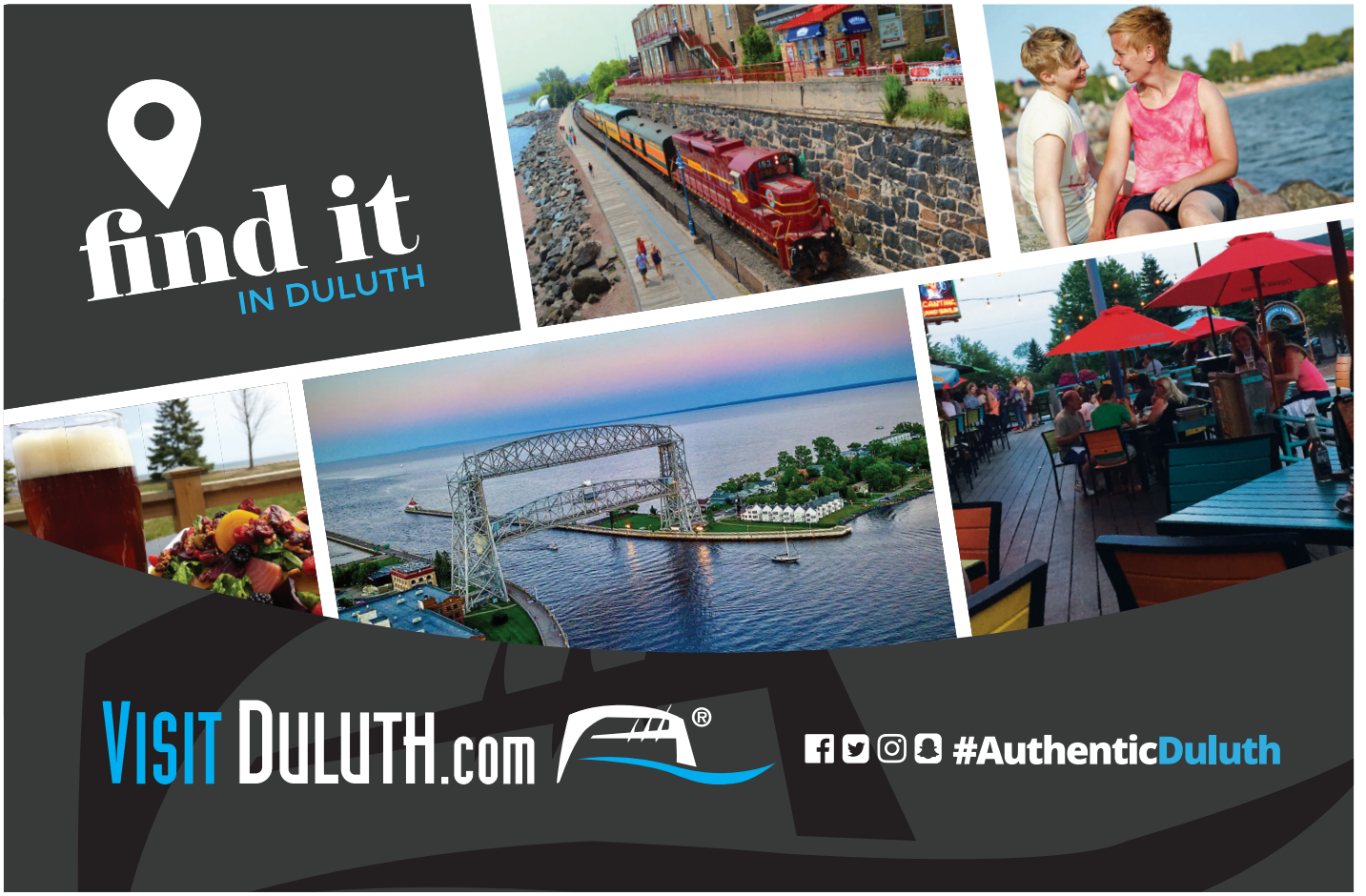
Minneapolis
www.lushmpls.com ▮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St. Paul's Iron Ranger is a continuation of a family business that got its start in Northern Minnesota over a century ago.

Iron Ranger

BY BRADLEY TRAYNOR
PHOTOS BY CHRIS TARBOX

There's a little neighborhood pub along St. Paul's Grand Avenue jam-packed with big flavors from up north. For anyone lucky enough to wander in for a couple beers and wings after work, Tom Forti's Iron Ranger is much more than your average neighborhood pub. It's also a culinary love letter to family, an iconic part of our state and its rich cultural tradition. I had the chance to explore this unique taste of the Range with a friend a few weeks back and to say I left full (of stomach and heart) is an understatement.

If you like your Porketta sandwiches with a little bit of spicy Latin flair, then the Porketta Cubano is right up your alley.

Like most pub menus, there's plenty of the standard wings, curds and flatbread fare. Unlike most pub menus, however, Iron Ranger has a few signature items that warrant your immediate attention. Let's start with the Iron Range nachos. In fact, let's end with them, as well. Draped with handfuls of moist, tender Italian-spiced pork roast known on the Range as porketta, this epic pile of nachos quickly rose to the top of my appetizer favorites list. Dotted with house-made giardiniera and blanketed with handfuls of melted cheddar jack and mozzarella cheese, absolutely no one is walking away hungry after a helping or two. Or five.

The Iron Ranger's signature porketta that makes the nachos a winner is thankfully spread throughout the menu and makes an appearance on another unlikely appetizer. The poutine combines not only pork, but plenty of crispy french fries and mozzarella cheese, bathed in rich, velvety gravy.

Continued on page 24

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Calling home to the Forti family's Italian heritage, the hand-rolled stromboli is another favorite. Layered with healthy helpings of ham, salami, capicola and plenty of cheese, this savory pillow of molten joy begs to be dunked in its accompanied hearty marinara.

Iron Ranger's up-north roots really began to shine under their From the Range offerings. Pasties might not be the first food that comes to mind on a Midwestern bar menu, but these flaky, meat-filled hand pies are a hearty treat whether you spent the day down the mine or down the street in a cube farm. Ranger's Cornish pasty comes packed with plenty of rib-sticking beef, pork and root vegetables.

The only thing you're likely to see less on a menu than pasties are, in fact, cabbage rolls. The Croatian comfort food commonly known as "sarma" are well known on the Range and more than just an ethnic staple. Rolled with beef, ham, pork and rice, sarma are topped with a tangy sauerkraut and tomato sauce.

There are plenty of sandwiches to sate hefty appetites and one particular standout table favorite was an Italian-Cuban combo that deserves your full attention. The Porketta Cubano hits all the right notes with a rich combo of slow-cooked porketta, ham, swiss and pickles, topped with giardiniera on a crusty baguette.

Continued on page 26

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Iron Ranger's slate of delicious appetizers includes the fantastic sliced stromboli plate.

Even if you're stuffed to the gills and the last thing on your mind is dessert, make sure to nab a slice or two of perennial Iron Range pastry classic potica. This buttery Slovenian sweet bread is filled with plenty of sugar, cinnamon and walnuts. It's a melt-in-your-mouth treasure that comes with a scoop of equally decadent gelato. Don't miss out.

Speaking of missing out, if you're not able to sample all the wonderfully unique menu items during your visit, fear not. Iron Ranger has a substantial to-go selection. Fancy a few extra sarma for the road? A potica for Sunday brunch? You can even bring home a hearty porketta roast for the entire family. Winner, winner, porketta for dinner.

Whether you long for the nostalgic flavors of Minnesota's Iron Range or you're simply looking for a fun spot to hang out with friends over some quality eats, stop into Iron Ranger the next time you're on Grand Avenue. The stories Tom Forti and his team are telling with food is worth listening to. And, of course, tasting. ∎

The sarma, also known as a Croatian cabbage roll, is an Iron Ranger staple.

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Seven Breweries In Seven Days 2019

BY CHRIS TARBOX
PHOTOS BY CHRIS TARBOX

The massive Utepils taproom is located in North Minneapolis, in between the Harrison and Bryn Mawr neighborhoods.

A year ago, for Lavender's 2018 Dine & Drink Issue, your friendly neighborhood managing editor decided to set out to find a week's worth of Twin Cities breweries for you, our fine readers, to discover and delight in as the snow thaws and springtime beckons. And while that septet of taprooms were well worth the write-up (and still are, believe you me), the beautiful thing about our fine region is that there's no deficit of delectable drinkeries to explore. Saddle up, Brew Believers! Here are seven breweries for seven days!

Pryes Brewing is home to one of the nation's few feather bowling lanes.

SUNDAY

Utepils Brewing

According to the Justesen family who imagineered this brewery into existence, "utepils" is a Norwegian term that essentially translates as "the longing and anticipation for the first beer enjoyed in the sunshine." If you stepped into this massive taproom in between the Bryn Mawr and Harrison neighborhoods and sampled just one of their brews, you'd understand.

Lucky for yours truly, lagers are the name of the game for Utepils, and hot damn, there are a lot of them. But what Utepils also offers are a homey environment and a lot of fun activities, such as a cribbage tournament every Thursday, a bring-your-own-instrument acoustic jam session every third Monday; but the biggest cheers go to an inclusive Yoga + Beer session every Sunday morning. A pint of lager with spiritual exercise? Talk about nirvana.

Utepils has been lauded for its grand selection of award-winning lagers.

Tarbox Suggests: The creamy Bavarian hefeweizen heartthrob known as Ewald the Golden; the rich heller bock Springbok

225 Thomas Ave. N., Suite #700
Minneapolis
utepilsbrewing.com

MONDAY

Pryes Brewing Company

Alright, you got through the first day of the work week. You need that pick-me-up, you need that kick in the butt to cure you of that case of the Mondays. Nestled on West River Road in North Minneapolis, this sophisticated, award-winning taproom boasts a bountiful boatload of beautiful beverages to slake your post-work thirst.

In addition, Pryes also has one of the nation's few feather bowling lanes, with league play resuming this fall, as well as dog-friendly patios and a year-long guest kitchen in Cason Italian Eatery. And that beer! Each brew is a powerful punch to your taste buds that can't be missed.

Tarbox Suggests: The tangerine dream of Sabro, straight from the mountains of New Mexico; the miraculous Miraculum, Pryes' signature citrusy IPA with one hell of a hoppy bite

1401 West River Rd. N.
Minneapolis
www.pryesbrewing.com

Taproom Kitchen is Fulton's full-time food truck, offering a slew of Midwestern cuisine favorites.

Pryes boasts an eclectic selection of strong beers that range from the hyper-citrusy to the uber-hoppy.

TUESDAY

Fulton

I love the North Loop. Personally, I've always considered Minneapolis' Warehouse District to be underrated, which is a shame, considering the wealth of hidden and not-so-hidden gems this neighborhood contains. One such gem is the venerable taproom champion Fulton. With a dog-friendly patio, a full-time Airstream food truck in the Taproom Kitchen (try the bratwurst), and Sporcle trivia every Tuesday evening, you're guaranteed to have a terrific time with Fulton. On top of that, Fulton is wont to play host to meat raffles and Drag Queen Bingo, so you're rather obligated to make a trip to the North Loop in the near future.

Tarbox Suggests: The seasonal Belgian Wheat beauty Blackberry Wit; the simple, succulent, and the to-the-point Standard Lager, wonderfully described by the brewers as a "lawnmower beer"

414 6th Ave N.
Minneapolis
www.fultonbeer.com

Indeed's Flavorwave IPA is one of the brewery's popular signature beers.

Continued on page 30

Lakes & Legends offers an assortment of incredibly smooth beers perfect for brewery neophytes.

Fulton's taproom has been a brewery favorite in the North Loop since 2012.

Feeling lazy? Grab one of Lakes & Legends' beers and hang out in their patio-style lounge area.

WEDNESDAY

Indeed Brewing Co.

What better way to spend Hump Day than giving back to the community while enjoying a cold frosty one? A beloved Northeast Minneapolis brewery, Indeed not only offers up an insanely varied list of beers on tap, but every Wednesday they present their "Indeed We Can" initiative, with the night's net proceeds donated to a different local nonprofit every week.

It helps that Indeed already benefits from a cozy, super-friendly environment with a lovely bar staff, and come springtime, you can down a Day Tripper while hanging out on their patio with your doggo at your side. Win-win.

Tarbox Suggests: The crisp and ultra-floral Mexican Honey Light lager; the signature Flavorwave IPA, with a persistent aftertaste that you won't mind sticking around for a spell

711 15th Ave. NE
Minneapolis
www.indeedbrewing.com

THURSDAY

Lakes & Legends

One of the best parts about going out for a beer is just getting to RELAX. You don't have to work, you don't have to attend to any serious adulting; you just get to kick back and enjoy good beer and better company. Located right in the heart of Loring Park, Lakes & Legends know all about relaxation: as if the taproom wasn't spacious enough, they have tons of comfy seats and patio-style furniture to let you stretch out and knock down a brew or two.

Speaking of which, L&L boasts some of the smoothest beer I've ever tasted in my life: it doesn't matter if they're IPAs, ales, or porters, the beers at Lakes & Legends are perfect for folks who don't consider themselves beer people. And don't forget to check their calendar for a myriad of events, ranging from comedy nights and trivia to ceramics markets and much more.

Tarbox Suggests: The smooth and easy 5-Weight Cream Ale, made with 100 percent Minnesota-grown barley; the tart and hearty raspberry honey ale St. Gail

1368 Lasalle Ave.
Minneapolis
lakesandlegends.com

The Peanut Butter Porter and Raspberry Milkshake IPA are two of Dangerous Man's must-have concoctions.

FRIDAY

Dangerous Man Brewing Co.

Okay, first off, a brewery that values a damn good beard is worth looking into. Have you seen their logo? A mere couple blocks from the Mississippi River resides Dangerous Man Brewing Co., a Northeast Minneapolis institution since 2013. If you're into lagers, stouts, IPAs, ales, or coffee porters (or all of the above), then Dangerous Man is the perfect way to end the work week.

Just be sure to claim a seat, because it's not uncommon for Dangerous Man to get really packed really quick. That's just the power of a damn good beer. And beard.

Tarbox Suggests: The roasty, sweet-tooth-friendly Peanut Butter Porter; the smooth and sweet AF Raspberry Milkshake IPA, with one of the most intoxicating smells a beer could ever have

1300 2nd St. NE
Minneapolis
dangerousmanbrewing.com

Continued on page 32

www.Plymouth.org

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SATURDAY

La Doña Cervecería

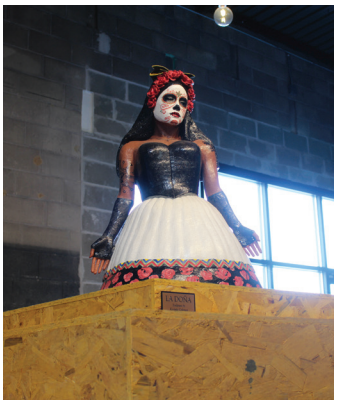
It's Saturday. You're feeling frisky. You have some pep in that step. Why not expel that energy with a beer in hand and both feet on the dance floor? La Doña Cervecería, a for-benefit brewery based out of the Harrison neighborhood of Minneapolis, is a brilliant blend of Northern-style brew sensibilities and Latin culture. A great many beers offered are brewed with a special flair reminiscent of Central and South America, and it shows.

And that's not all! Every Saturday is Salsa night, where you can *sacudir tu trasero* while sipping on their flagship Doña Fría lager. And don't forget to sign up for La Doña's sports leagues, with fútbol and, soon, broomball open for anyone above drinking age!

Tarbox Suggests: The malty, caramel-y, brown ale mix of Europe, America, and Patagonia known as Sueños; citrus taste and piney smells galore with the La Reyna IPA

241 Fremont Ave. N
Minneapolis
dameladona.com

Every Wednesday, Indeed Brewing presents their charitable Indeed We Can initiative, with net proceeds donated to a local nonprofit.



La Doña Cervecería celebrates not only the beauty of beer, but Latin culture as well.

La Doña's drinks combine American and Latin sensibilities.

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LEATHER LIFE | BY STEVE LENIUS

Exploring Masculinity Through Art

An Interview with Christopher Selleck, Artist and Photographer

Christopher Selleck is an artist who uses photography and other forms of art to explore what he calls "the terrain of masculinity." His artwork has been displayed at Twin Cities Leather & Latte, and in 2018 he had a one-man show called "This is a Record" at SooVAC (Soo Visual Arts Center) in Uptown Minneapolis. He is a 2019 Minnesota State Arts Board grant recipient.

I interviewed Selleck in his studio in Northeast Minneapolis. Hanging on a wall in his studio was "Male Veil 7", the photograph shown on this page, which is part of his "Male Veil" series of photographs. (Interview has been condensed and edited.)

What made you want to explore masculinity through art?

Christopher Selleck: It came from being bullied—running home and saying this guy was trying to beat me up, and my dad's like, "What are you doing here? Get the fuck out there and be a man," and me not really knowing what "being a man" meant or looked like.

I've always said that as a gay man, I've been an outsider to masculinity. There's something interesting about being able to look, as an outside observer, at the different ways men present themselves—these ideas of masculinity and hypermasculinity, as they relate to team sports or other areas that traditionally have been male-only.

There is this inherent intimacy that's really prevalent in a lot of sports and athleticism, and it's policed through the use of homophobia. Masculinity is preserved, in a way, by saying "Oh, I'm not gay" to buffer that space between two men. If you think about wrestling, I can't think of a much more physically intimate sport, but there's also, in a weird way, that psychic space between athletes. Brian Pronger, in The Arena of Masculinity, describes: "Homophobia is used as a way to keep the implicit from becoming explicit." So you're policing that edge of men together in that intimate space by the idea of, "Oh, you're not a faggot, are you?"

When you look at this picture ("Male Veil 7")—a young white male, he's got tattoos, he's in a jockstrap, he is standing in front of a dark background and is being photographed through a red mesh screen to reference the mesh of sports uniforms. So we're seeing the detail of the screen, the body is a slight blur, but you're still able to recognize the physicality of his body as being presumably male.

Christopher Selleck. Photo by Rik Sferra

My series of "Male Veil" photographs are about the male body being viewed through this veil, which a lot of people interpret in different ways: it's fishnet, or some people have seen a reference to a confessional booth, or other different interpretations of what the veil is. I feel the work is very open-ended intentionally to allow for tons of different interpretations.

There's always a secondary read to my work, I think, if you come to it as a gay or queer person. You might pick up on subtleties and different readings of the work. I love that there's that ambiguity that allows for a broader interpretation, instead of having it be pigeonholed as "queer art" and interpreted only through that lens.

How do gay men react to your art?

CS: I think gay men recognize the beauty of the male body. Some men look at it and they're attracted to it. But there's also this thought, maybe from the way we're brought up, that says, "Oh, but I'm not supposed to like this." Culturally, we've been trained or taught to not look at or appreciate the male body as being beautiful. I think there are subtleties to all bodies, and looking at this figure in this photo tries to bring that into the foreground.

You also have a fair amount of women collectors of your art.

CS: I think heterosexual women love looking at a beautiful male body, in the same way that gay men do. And maybe they're more open to the idea of potentially having something like this hang on their wall, where I feel—and this is not 100% true—but I've met plenty of gay men who say, "Oh, I love this, but I could never have this in my house."

How do straight men react to your art?

CS: I think it really depends on where they come from culturally—how old they are, and

Male Veil 7 Photo by Christopher Selleck

whether they grew up in a small town, which can make their worldview much smaller than that of a straight man who was maybe more worldly or more open.

Trans men?

CS: Same thing, I think there's definitely a recognition of the performative space of masculinity.

What about gay men who are proudly effeminate?

CS: I think I'm probably a little too lazy to be that fabulous. But just because I don't want to wear makeup doesn't mean I don't think someone else shouldn't be able to. If you're feeling empowered by wanting whatever you want, yes, go, do it, be fierce. I'm not trying to say with my art that this is what being a man looks like, fall in line or get the fuck out—that's definitely not what I think this is about.

Selleck will be showing part of the work from "This is a Record" in a show called "Queer Forms" next fall in the Katherine E. Nash gallery at the University of Minnesota. ▮

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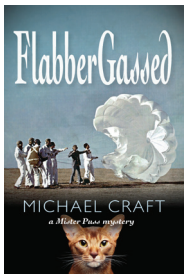
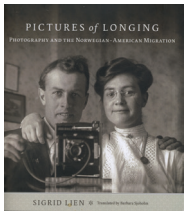


FlabberGassed: A Mister Puss Mystery

Michael Craft
Questover Press
$24.95

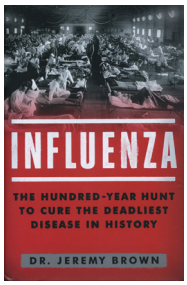
FlabberGassed is the first in Michael Craft's Mister Puss Mysteries, promising tantalizing gay cozies featuring a gay architect and a rich widow's prescient but Sphinx-like Abyssinian. Before asking "Too twee or not too twee?", consider Craft's track record of sharp dialogue, crisp action, and adroit handling of relationships and gay culture in his earlier Mark Manning and Claire Gray Mysteries. FlabberGassed introduces husbands and work partners Brody Norris and Marston Miles, architects of a flagship weight-loss clinic. Flamboyant Dr. Frumpkin's hyperbaric O2 Flabber Gas treatment touts changed lives, but kills the first test subject. Brody launches into sleuth mode, encountering little Dumont, WI's other detective, Mr. Puss. What are feline's true capabilities? Craft doesn't over-engineer, but leaves the reader, like young Twist, begging for "more!"



Pictures of Longing: Photography and the Norwegian-American Migration

Sigrid Lien – trans. Barbara Sjoholm
University of Minnesota Press
$29.95

Longing is a study of Norwegian migrants' America-photographs; a small sample of the thousands of images sent by Norwegians in the new country back to friends and loved ones in the old. Between 1836 and 1915, more than 750,000 Norwegians came to America; some remained, some returned, many sending visual records of life here during their stay. Author Lien, a professor of art history and photography at the University of Bergen, Norway, viewed the photographs alongside the written missives, filling out and broadening the stories of these settlers to enrich our historical and cultural understanding of the period, demonstrating how photography engages with history. The whole offers a wealth of knowledge and an integrative way to view history, to offer unique glimpses back in time.



Influenza: The Hundred Year Hunt to Cure the Deadliest Disease in History

Dr. Jeremy Brown
Touchstone
$26.99

Brown, Director of the Office of Emergency Care Research in the National Institute of Health, knows a lot about the flu, though not, by his own reckoning, enough. Nor, he notes, does anyone else. Although there has not been another pandemic on the scale of the original 1918 pestilence that consumed 50-100 million souls worldwide, some 30,00 Americans die yearly. Brown covers flu's history, the hunt for a vaccine, the value of yearly shots, the futility of stockpiling vaccine, and more. While original 1918 samples have been resurrected from the Alaskan tundra and sequenced genetically, influenza has yet to be vanquished or fully understood. Of one thing Brown is sure: "We don't know when or where the next pandemic will occur, but it will occur."

Drama Castle (7th Nicky and Noah Mystery)

Joe Cosentino
Joe Cosentino
$14.99

Theater Professor Nicky Abbondanza, gorgeous spouse Noah Oliver, and adorable and precocious son Taavi, quit Vermont's Treemeadow College to shoot a historical film on location at Conall Castle in the Scottish Highlands. As previously, Death dogs their steps, and dungeons, moats, drawbridges and swords are involved in their hunt for the hand that is killing off the cast, the remaining members of the Conalls. Also aboard are the WASPish Martin and Ruben, bickering screenwriter and producer, Noah's parents, Bonnie and TV-addicted Scott. With many a slip twixt murder foul and happy ending emerge old grudges, sibling rivalry, iffy births and mystery parentages, including an unexpected bonus for Noah in the form of… oops! Mustn't reveal… Get a copy, generously pour your malt whiskey–enjoy! ∎

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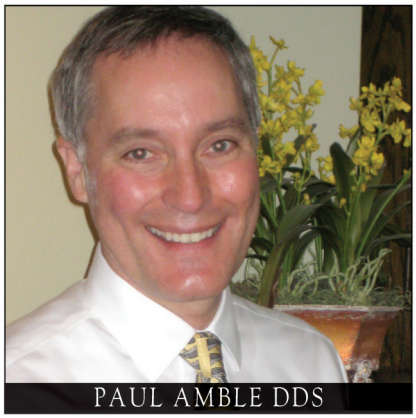

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EVERYDAY DRAMA | BY JENNIFER PARELLO

A Day In the Life of a Step Parent

You wake up and make your lunch. Hide your lunch on the back porch so the kid doesn't grab it by mistake. He once took your lunch shortly after you entered his life four years ago. It was a terrible surprise for him. At school that day, he opened it to find a salad, instead of the food circus his mom packs. Crustless sandwich. Gummy bears. Goldfish. Juice box.

He stormed home that day, and slammed the disappointment on the kitchen table. He pointed to the withered salad. He scolded his mother—not you—for the mistake. She was the parent. She should know better. It wasn't your fault, he reassured you. You don't know any better. He was ten years old.

Come home from work to find the kid with his posse of friends playing video games. Ever since he became a teen, he travels in a pack. He asks if you will order them a pizza. Since it's you, and not his mom, he asks politely. If it was his mom, he would demand. She would refuse. He would yell. She would prepare a plateful of healthy snacks for the kids, with a sleeve of crackers and some cheese sticks to shut them up.

You order the pizza.

Your spouse comes home from work. Frowns at pizza box. Recounts an argument she had that day over a kid-related topic with her ex, the kid's dad. You listen quietly and nod in agreement with her, even though you agree with her ex on this dispute. In the past, you have vocalized your support of the ex's view. This is always a mistake.

You like the ex. He's a nice guy. You're very happy that the marriage didn't work out, but glad that they were once in love. You think for a moment of what their life was like when they were happy. You've heard stories. Then you think of them having sex. This is always a mistake.

You sulk. She knows intuitively of the disturbing picture you just painted in your mind. She rolls her eyes and shakes her head. She thinks you're hopeless, but she refuses to give up on you.

The kid's posse goes home and you take him to the theater for the opening night of a superhero movie. He insists on seeing the movies in this franchise the night they open. He insists you accompany him.

You have seen every movie in the franchise. You think these movies are inane and lack character development. You think the writers are lazy, craven, and care only about making money.

The kid knows your thoughts on this subject. But he still makes you see them. "It's important you see all of them so that you understand the entire series," he tells you. It's not important. You suspect that he just likes that you make this effort for him.

You go to the snack counter. The kid gets every snack forbidden by his mom. The friendly cashier chuckles at the bounty, winks at me, and says, "You've got a nice mom." The kid nods. Neither of you correct the cashier.

You and the kid look alike. He's often mistaken for your son. You love that he never gets rattled by the mistake. You like that he seems as tickled by that ridiculous notion as you are.

As you walk into the theater, you ask if Batman is a character in this franchise. You say this before every movie to irritate the kid. He rolls his eyes and shakes his head. He thinks you're hopeless, but he refuses to give up on you. ▮

LAVENDER LENS | PHOTOS BY SOPHIA HANTZES

Photo by Sophia Hantzes

MINNESOTA LYNX 3RD ANNUAL WOMEN'S SPOTLIGHT EVENT

MARCH 8, 2019

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SKIRTING THE ISSUES | BY ELLEN KRUG

Sentimentalist

Gentle readers: please indulge me as this is my second column in a row where I go back in time.

It's true: among other things, I'm a huge sentimentalist. I hold onto things way longer than I should and I'm always marking time—the number of years since X or Y; the age of my daughters when we did this or that; and more recently, "death gap math" where I calculate a decedent's age in relation to my then-current age. (Actually, see my column on this in the January 18, 2018 Lavender issue.)

All of which brings me to two very big upcoming anniversaries.

The first anniversary, April 30, will mark fifteen years since I left my ex-wife, Lydia. We had been together for thirty-two years, first as high school sweethearts and then as spouses but always as soulmates. We had built an incredible life together—two beautiful daughters, a five-bedroom house in Cedar Rapids' best neighborhood, three cars in a four-car garage, country club membership, my own law firm with many blue-ribbon clients, and money in the bank. Our life together was literally a dream come true and for any other male-presenting person, it would have been more than enough.

Yet, it wasn't the life for me. God knows I certainly tried to make it what I wanted and needed; I went through all kinds of therapy, took anti-depressants, and downed cases of Heineken and chardonnay trying to remain in that life, presenting as a man.

Somehow, I got the guts to leave the love of my life and that big house, and on the morning of April 30, 2004, I loaded a couple of bags into the car and drove away. Two hours later, I closed on the purchase of a house on the other side of town. At about noon that day, I walked into my new home, the first space in my entire life where I could be me, the whole me, and said "Wow."

I set out to build a brand-new life—and trust me, that wasn't a simple task in small city Iowa—where I made an entirely new set of friends and created a completely different support network. It certainly wasn't a straight line and for a long time, I resisted the notion that I was truly female. I tried all kinds of half-measures, like first believing I was "simply" gay with a lingerie fetish. When that didn't work, I thought that maybe I could secretly dress as a woman with a few select friends and keep it at that while dating both men and women.

However, because authenticity truly won't leave you alone until you fully pay attention, ultimately it became very clear that yes, I was (and remain) female. That brings me to the second anniversary that I will soon mark.

Ten years ago, on May 11, 2009, at about nine in the morning, a secretary at my law firm hit Send, which launched an email addressed to 200 clients, lawyers and judges. In that missive, I announced that I was transgender and that from there on out, I would present only as female. I explained what being "transgender" meant and asked my clients to not fire me. Still, if they didn't want a lawyer who was transgender, I said I'd help them locate a new attorney—it was the least I could do.

I anxiously awaited reactions to the email. Within twenty minutes, the replies started. Uniformly, I heard back, "Congratulations," and, "Happy for you!" Soon there were phone calls; two lawyers from the largest firm in town telephoned asking, "What can we do to help you?" Later, I would receive affirming letters and cards which gave me hope that yes, maybe my law firm would survive this.

I even heard from a federal judge, who said I was "brave." He shared a story of how he first believed being transgender was "made up." That all changed when he presided over a case involving a transgender prisoner who was suing to be given hormones; when witness after witness testified how it was possible for one's gender identity to not match one's body, he became convinced and ordered that the prisoner be allowed access to hormones. (His order was later overturned by a higher court.)

Eventually, however, my coming out proved to be too much for most of those blue-ribbon clients and I was forced to close my law firm. That propelled me on a different—but truly authentic—trajectory, one which has you reading these very words right now.

Long ago I learned the saying, "Make lemonade out of lemons."

While life has tossed a few lemons my way, with the help of many, I've been lucky enough to concoct my own brand of lemonade.

For that, I'll forever be grateful. ∎

Ellen (Ellie) Krug is the author of Getting to Ellen: A Memoir about Love, Honesty and Gender Change *(2013). She speaks and trains on diversity and inclusion topics; visit www.elliekrug.com where you can also sign up for her newsletter, The Ripple. She welcomes your comments at ellenkrugwriter@gmail.com.*

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